Claims

Please amend claims 1-3, 6-12, 15, 19, 24, 29-30 and 33-42 and add new claims 44-48 as follows:

1.   (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method comprising:

receiving a signal indicative of an occurrence of an ECN event caused by congestion within ~~at least one~~ a channel of ~~a plurality~~ an aggregate of related channels ~~during transmission of packets from~~ connecting a source ~~protocol layer~~ to a destination via a path through a network, wherein the signal indicating the ECN event is detectable in the source, the destination and the network; and

based on the signal indicating the ECN event occurrence, ~~determining~~ selecting at least one channel of the aggregate of related channels to have decreased packets transmitted therethrough for alleviating the congestion.

2.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~determining~~ selecting the at least one channel to have decreased packets transmitted therethrough ~~comprises determining the at least one channel~~ is based on a congestion pricing criteria.

3.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the network comprises the Internet, and the source ~~protocol layer~~ comprises an IP protocol layer.

4.   (Canceled)

5.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the signal indicative of the ECN event occurrence comprises receiving the signal at one of the source and the network.

6.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~determining~~ selecting the at least one channel to have decreased packets transmitted therethrough comprises ~~determining~~ selecting the at least one channel at one of the source and the network.

7.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the signal indicative of the ECN event occurrence comprises receiving the signal at a layer higher than [the] a source protocol layer and ~~determining~~ selecting the at least one channel to have decreased packets transmitted therethrough comprises ~~determining~~ selecting the at least one channel at the layer higher than the source protocol layer.

8.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the signal indicative of the ECN event occurrence comprises receiving the signal at a computer program at the source and ~~determining~~ selecting the at least one channel to have decreased packets transmitted therethrough is implemented by the computer program at the source.

9.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the signal indicative of the ECN event occurrence comprises receiving the signal at the destination at which the packet transmitted is received, and ~~determining~~ selecting the at least one channel to have decreased packets transmitted therethrough comprises ~~determining~~ selecting the at least one channel at the destination.

10.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the signal indicative of the ECN event occurrence comprises receiving a packet sent by a destination protocol layer of [a] the destination indicating the ECN event at the source.

11.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein ~~determining~~ selecting the at least one channel to have decreased packets transmitted therethrough comprises ~~determining~~ selecting the [l]at least one channel at the source.

12.   (Currently Amended) A computerized system comprising:
         a network layer having a ~~plurality~~ path comprising an aggregate of related channels therethrough, and triggering an ECN event in response to congestion within one of the ~~plurality~~ aggregate of related channels during transmission of a packet from a source having

a source protocol layer to a destination having a destination protocol layer, wherein the

triggered ECN event is detectable at the source, and the destination; and,

a policy mechanism to ~~determine~~ select at least one channel of the ~~plurality~~ aggregate

of related channels other than the congested channel to have decreased transmission of

packets therethrough based on the ECN event for alleviating the congestion.

13.   (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the network layer comprises the Internet.

14.   (Original) The system of claim 12 wherein at least one of the source protocol layer

and the destination protocol layer comprises an IP layer.

15.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein the policy mechanism resides

at the network layer.

16.   (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the policy mechanism resides at the

source.

17.   (Canceled)

18.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 16, wherein the destination is to send the

source a packet indicating the ECN event so that the source detects the occurrence of the

ECN event.

19.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 16, wherein one of the destination and the

network layer is to indicate to the source that the ECN event has been triggered via a source

layer higher than the source protocol layer.

20.   (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the policy mechanism resides at the

destination.

21.   (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the destination is to communicate to the source the at least one channel to have decreased transmission of packets therethrough.

22.   (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the policy mechanism is based on a congestion pricing criteria.

23.   (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the ECN event is based on a congestion pricing criteria.

24.   (Currently Amended) A computer comprising:

a processor;

a computer-readable medium;

a protocol layer having a plurality an aggregate of related channels connecting a source to a destination via a path through a network, the aggregate of related channels including a congested channel; and

a congestion policy program executed by the processor from the medium, wherein the congestion policy program is responsive to an ECN event triggered within the congested channel due to a congestion during transmission of packets from [a] the source to [a] the destination and wherein the ECN event is detectable within the source and the destination for determining selecting at least one channel of the plurality aggregate of related channels other than the congested channel to have decreased transmission of packets therethrough based on [an] the ECN event triggered within the congested channel to alleviate the congestion.

25.   (Original) The computer of claim 24, wherein the protocol layer comprises a source protocol layer.

26.   (Original) The computer of claim 24, wherein the protocol layer comprises a destination protocol layer.

27.   (Canceled)

28.   (Original) The computer of claim 24, wherein the congestion policy program is based on a congestion pricing criteria.

29.   (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium having processor instructions stored thereon for execution by a processor, the medium causing performance of a method comprising:

receiving feedback of [the] an ECN event triggered due to a congestion occurrence in one of a plurality an aggregate of related channels during transmission of a packet from connecting a source protocol layer to a destination protocol layer via a path through a network, wherein the feedback is detectable at the source and the destination; and,

determining selecting at least one channel of the aggregate of related channels to have decreased packets transmitted therethrough, based on the ECN event for alleviating the congestion.

30.   (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 29, wherein determining selecting the at least one channel to have decreased packets transmitted therethrough comprises determining selecting the at least one channel based on a congestion pricing criteria.

31.   (Original) The medium of claim 29, wherein the network comprises the Internet, and the source protocol layer comprises an IP protocol layer.

32.   (Canceled)

33.   (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 29, wherein determining selecting the at least one channel to have decreased packets transmitted therethrough comprises determining selecting the at least one channel at one of the source and the network.

34.   (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 29, wherein receiving feedback of the ECN event comprises receiving feedback at a layer higher than the source protocol layer and determining selecting the at least one channel to have decreased packets transmitted

therethrough comprises ~~determining~~ selecting the at least one channel at the layer higher than the source protocol layer.

35.   (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 29, wherein receiving feedback of the ECN event comprises receiving feedback at a computer program at the source and ~~determining~~ selecting the at least one channel to have decreased packets transmitted therethrough is implemented by the computer program at the source.

36.   (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 29, wherein receiving feedback of the ECN event comprises receiving feedback at [a] the destination at which the packet transmitted is received, and ~~determining~~ selecting the at least one channel to have decreased packets transmitted therethrough comprises ~~determining~~ selecting the at least one channel at the destination.

37.   (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 29, wherein receiving feedback of the ECN event comprises receiving a packet sent by the destination protocol layer of [a] the destination indicating the ECN event at the source.

38.   (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 37, wherein ~~determining~~ selecting the at least one channel to have decreased packets transmitted therethrough comprises ~~determining~~ selecting the at least one channel at the source.

39.   (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 29, wherein ~~determining~~ selecting the at least one channel to have decreased packets transmitted therethrough comprises ~~determining~~ selecting the at least one channel at a layer higher than the source protocol layer.

40.   (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 29, wherein ~~determining~~ selecting the at least one channel to have decreased packets transmitted therethrough comprises ~~determining~~ selecting the at least one channel at a layer higher than the destination protocol layer receiving the packet sent by the source protocol layer.

41.   (Currently Amended) A computer comprising:

a source protocol layer;

a plurality of filters;

a plurality an aggregate of related channels connecting a source protocol layer to a destination protocol layer via a path through a network layer, each channel associated with a filter and related to the other channels; and,

a policy mechanism responsive to an ECN event triggered due to a congestion during transmission of packets from the source protocol layer to [a] the destination protocol layer via [a] the network layer, wherein the ECN event is detectable within the source protocol layer and the destination protocol layer for determining selecting, based on the ECN event, at least one channel of the plurality aggregate of related channels to have decreased packets transmitted therethrough from the source protocol layer through the plurality of filters to alleviate the congestion.

42.   (Currently Amended) The computer of claim 41, wherein the policy mechanism is based on a price congestion pricing criteria.

43.   (Original) The computer of claim 41, further comprising at least one queue, each queue associated with a filter.

44.   (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the aggregate of related channels comprises a video channel and an audio channel.

45.   (New) The system of claim 12, wherein the aggregate of related channels comprises a video channel and an audio channel.

46.   (New) The computer of claim 24, wherein the aggregate of related channels comprises a video channel and an audio channel.

47.   (New) The medium of claim 29, wherein the aggregate of related channels comprises a video channel and an audio channel.

48.   (New) The computer of claim 41, wherein the aggregate of related channels comprises a video channel and an audio channel.